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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/52/644/Add.3)*]

52/143. Situation of human rights in Cuba

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as stated in the Charter of the United Nations and elaborated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Reaffirming also that all States have an obligation to fulfil the commitments they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

Taking particular note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/62 of 16 April 1997,[2] in which the Commission commended the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cuba for his report[3] and for his efforts to carry out his mandate, and extended his mandate for one year,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] E/CN.4/1997/53.

Expressing concern about continuing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cuba, as outlined in the interim report on the situation of human rights in Cuba submitted to the General Assembly by the Special Rapporteur,[4]

Deploring, in this regard, the arbitrary arrest, detention and harassment of Cuban citizens, in particular members of the Dissident Working Group and the independent press, for peacefully seeking to exercise their civil and political rights,

Recalling the continued refusal of the Government of Cuba to cooperate with the Commission on Human Rights with regard to its resolutions 1992/61 of 3 March 1992,[5] 1993/63 of 10 March 1993,[6] 1994/71 of 9 March 1994,[7] 1995/66 of 7 March 1995,[8] 1996/69 of 23 April 1996[9] and 1997/62,[2] including its repeated opposition to a visit to Cuba by the Special Rapporteur,

1. *Commends* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Cuba for his interim report;[4]

2. *Expresses its full support* for the work of the Special Rapporteur;

3. *Calls once more upon* the Government of Cuba to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur by permitting him full and free access to establish contact with the Government and the citizens of Cuba so that he may fulfil the mandate entrusted to him;

4. *Regrets profoundly* the numerous violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cuba, as described in the report of the Special Rapporteur submitted to the Commission on Human Rights[3] and in his interim report submitted to the General Assembly;[4]

5. *Urges* the Government of Cuba to ensure freedom of expression and assembly and the freedom to demonstrate peacefully, including by allowing political parties and non-governmental organizations to function freely in the country and by reforming legislation in this area;

6. *Calls especially upon* the Government of Cuba to release the numerous persons detained for activities of a political nature, including those specifically mentioned in the interim report of the Special Rapporteur, who suffer from inadequate medical care while imprisoned or whose rights as journalists or jurists are impeded or denied;

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[4] A/52/479, annex.

[5] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[6] Ibid., *1993, Supplement No. 3* (E/1993/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[7] Ibid., *1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[8] Ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[9] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* (E/1996/23), chap. II, sect. A.

7. *Calls upon* the Government of Cuba to carry out the recommendations contained in the interim report of the Special Rapporteur to bring its observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cuba into conformity with international standards and applicable international human rights instruments and to end all violations of human rights including, in particular, the detention and imprisonment of human rights defenders and others who are engaged in the peaceful exercise of their rights, and to grant access to its prisons to non-governmental humanitarian organizations and international humanitarian agencies;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-third session.

70th plenary meeting
12 December 1997